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Songs by

MR PHAM DUY

Vietnamese composer, musicologist,
collector and singer.

Presented

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Auditorium
Museum of Natural History
The Smithsonian Institution

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Mr. Duy is visiting the U. S. as a participant in the International Visitors Program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

1

THE FULL MOON FAIR SONG

Old Folk Song arranged by Pham Duy

English version: Jann Pratt
Pham Duy

Oh let's go up on the hill, eat our fill beneath the tree -
Oh sing we now of the Banyan tree (bis)
Who will give us opportunity, so we can meet in Spring
The full moon fair for us to see (bis).

Cut bamboo, make a hat new, give it to you - three layers glued -
Oh sing we now of three layers glued (bis)
Who will make you that hat of bamboo, for you to wear to the fair
Where we will see the full moon there (bis)

Oh let's go, sew a grey coat, five layer coat she will sew just so -
Oh sing we now she will sew just so! (bis)
Who will sew you a new coat to go, and show it off 'neath the moon
Then we can be together soon! (bis)

2

THE WOUNDED SOLDIER

Words and Music: Pham Duy

English version: Steve Addiss

1

One day, one day in the afternoon
There is a girl in the land
With sheaves of rice in her hand
A heavy load for her arms (bis)

Her work, her work is the work of a man
Where a man worked before
He left to fight in the war
A heavy load for her heart (bis)

The days and weeks pass by
The weeks and months pass by
And the harvest comes and goes
But when will her man come, no one knows (bis)

2

One day, one day in the afternoon
He comes back, and she sees
His sleeves hang loose in the breeze
He's lost his arms in the war (bis)

His friends, his friends all honor the man
Now back from the war
She loves him more than before
Together they work the land (bis)

The days and weeks pass by
The weeks and months pass by
And the harvest comes and goes
But when will peace come, no one knows (bis)

3

THE POEM OF THE BUDDHIST MONK

Lyrics: The Rev. Thich Nhat Hanh

Music and Arrangement: Pham Duy

English Version: Steve Addiss

Six o'clock, when I wake
A friend brings me the news
My brother is killed.

Now he lies slain, and yet
By this house, by this wall
A flower blooms.

I, I still breathe...
I still eat, I still live. (repeat)

How shall I speak, how shall I say
All I hope for my land
All I hope for Viet Nam?

How shall I speak, how can I say
All that I hope, all that I pray
For my home, for my land?
Somehow I must say
All I hope for Viet Nam.

4

THE RAIN ON THE LEAVES

Words and Music: Pham Duy

English Version: Steve Addiss

1
The rain on the leaves is the tears of joy
Of the girl whose boy returns from the war.
The rain on the leaves is the bitter tears
When the mother hears her son is no more.

The rain on the leaves is the cry that is torn
From a baby just born as life is begun.
The rain on the leaves is an old couple's love
Much greater now than when they were young.

2
The rain on the leaves is the passionate voice
In a final choice when last love is near
The rain on the leaves is the voice surprised
As it realizes its first love is here.

The rain on the leaves is the heart's distress
And a loneliness, as life passes by.
The rain on the leaves is the last caress
And a tenderness before love can die.

5

I LEAVE IT ALL TO YOU

Words: Pham Duy, Nguyen D. Yuan

Music: Pham Duy

English Version: Pham Duy and Jann Pratt

1)

I leave to you our motherland
I leave you beauties of Viet Nam
Our heroes bold and true
The glorious past we knew.
I leave you all I could not do
I leave to you this tired life
I leave a country torn by strife
The way ahead is gone
The people's heart is numb
I leave to you my many wrongs.

But if you love and care
The people soon will hear
You love me and you care
They'd follow anywhere
So if you love and care
Our shame no more we'd bear
Because you love and care
We could in honor share.

2)

I leave you not one land but two
I leave divided people too
As hate becomes the rule
A reign of power cruel.
I leave to you my poor heart's rue
I leave you gentle peasant's wounds
I leave to you a young green tomb
The flag of win or lose
They both mean death to choose
I leave a battlefield to you

But if you love and care
The guns at last will sigh
You love me and you care
The fighting plane will cry
So if you love and care
Grenades will cease to fly
Because you love and care
Heart wins as war goes by.

3)

I leave the poor hard village life
I leave rich green fields full of rice
The good taste of the land
Has gone out from our hands.
I leave the guilt of greedy men
I leave the city now at dusk
Men fighting for a piece of dust
While those in nightclubs sigh
Their sons in battle die
I leave to you this shameful life.

But if you love and care
You'll take these things I leave
You love me and you care
We'll fight in unity.
So if you love and care
The way to victory
Because you love and care
Find how to make us free.

6

O U R F O E

Words and Music: Pham Duy

English Version: Jann Pratt, Pham Duy

CHORUS A) Our foe we know not a human is
If death we give who'll be left to live with?

- 1) Foe has a name and his name is mean
Foe has a name and his name is rough
He is most mad - His hate foremost
He is full of evil ghosts. That's why...(Chorus A)
- 2) Foe comes dressed in color's of ism
Foe comes in to play cards of freedom
Comes behind his front -- Sacks of words in back
Solidarity he attacks. That's why... (Chorus A)
- 3) Oh men, Oh women, Pity you I should
Oh men, oh women, pretty babes in the woods
Pity how you're bought - pity how you're fooled
Pity me. Oh pity you. That's why... (Chorus A)

6 (continued)

CHORUS B) Our foe we know is no foreigner
Our foe is right here inside every him and her.

4) Foe has the name inability
Foe has the name of I just can't see
He's cupidity - He's All for me
He is also jealousy. That's why...(Chorus B)

5) Foe is in fearful eyes, and see oh
Foe's in league with our pride and ego.
In our heart resides - Unfed soul abides
Dreams of conquest still survive. That's why...(Chorus B)

6) Oh men, oh women, I will love you ever
Oh men, oh women, I'll forsake you never
Love you every one - love by moon or sun
Now take my hand you must come. That's why...(Chorus A,B)

7

ON BEHALF

Music: Pham Duy
Words: Pham Duy, Tam Hang
English version: Pham Duy

(NOTE: Mr. Duy wishes that this song be understood in its entirety.
The song is repeated and the word save is substituted for the
word kill.

For my defense I must kill, must kill
Kill a man, Kill a man.
On behalf of my presence for my defense
I must kill a man.

For family I must kill, must kill
Kill ten men, kill ten men.
On behalf of posterity, for family
I must kill ten men.

For the village I must kill, must kill
Kill a hundred men, kill a hundred men.
On behalf of meager land, on behalf of
meager land
Kill a hundred men.

For the nation I must kill, must kill
Thousands of men, thousands of men.
On behalf of fatherland, for the nation
I must kill thousands of men.

For my ideal I must kill, must kill
Millions of men. Millions of men.
To liberate all mankind, for my ideal
I must kill millions of men.

For the human race I will kill, will
kill
Everything else. Everything else.
On behalf of enduring peace, on behalf
of enduring peace
Kill myself!

8

TRAGI-COMEDY

Music: Pham Duy
Words: Pham Duy, Thai Luan
English Version: Jann Pratt, Pham Duy

1
Hand up, that's the cue - Hand down, that's the cue.
Tragi-comedy now begins anew
Actor fires the gun. Other's life is done.
Blood now running down. Spilling o'er the ground.
The ground is the field. The sun and the rain.
The ground is the rice. The ground is good grain.

2
Hand up, that's the cue - Hand down, that's the cue
Tragi-comedy. Second act, new view.
Tortured out of hate. Actors bear their fate.
Facing now they stand. Looking far away.
Far'way is sweet home. Far'way Dad and Mom.
Far'way is one's love. Far'way little ones.

3
Hand up, that's the cue - Hand down, that's the cue
Tragi-comedy. New acts and new views.
Once spoke words of praise. Rude voice now is raised.
Wind blows everywhere. Listen, hear it say.
It says words so sweet. Says what lovers speak.
It says melody. Speaks of poetry.

8 (cont.)

4
Hand up, that's the cue - Hand down, that's the cue
Tragi-comedy will still continue
Bitter actors weep. Director can't see.
No one dares to speak. No one dares to breathe.
The play still goes on. Theater's director
Actors, spectators, together, suffer.

HANDS UP, THAT'S THE CUE - HANDS DOWN, THAT'S THE CUE
TRAGI-COMEDY WILL STILL CONTINUE.

9

MY REASON'S TALKIN'

Words and music: Pham Duy

English version: Jann Pratt, Pham Duy

My reason's talkin', but I do not hear, I'm goin' on the way I hope to go
My reason's talkin', but I just don't care, I still believe that men have hearts of
gold
My reason's talkin', but I do not hear, I've gotta love my brothers good or bad
My reason's talkin', but I just don't care, I still believe in them when they have
strayed.

CHORUS:

Like this I'm born to be, to be.
Like this I'm born to be, to be.
If you love me, let me live free,
And if not, then please let me be.

My reason's talkin', but I do not hear, I love life, but how fast it hurries by!
My reason's talkin', but I just don't care, I love my lover, but I fear the ties.
My reason's talkin', but I do not hear, I care for friends too much and hate
good-byes
My reason's talkin', but I just don't care, it's always much too late I realize.
(Chorus)

My reason's talkin', but I do not hear, I talk a language folks can't understand
My reason's talkin', but I just don't care, I will not follow like a little lamb.
My reason's talkin', but I do not hear, I sing of things folks try to hide away
My reason's talkin', but I just don't care, I laugh at folks who frown all of the
day.

(Chorus)

My reason's talkin', but I do not hear, in midst of hate I'm Horace incarnate
My reason's talkin', but I just don't care, I fight our foes but my revenge
escapes.
My reason's talkin', but I do not hear, I hate to see another's life is gone
My reason's talkin', but I just don't care, how will I find joy if I'm all alone!
(Chorus)

WHAT CAN I TAKE INTO DEATH

Words and music: Pham Duy

English version: Pham Duy, Le Linh

By and by, I shall die, on the way to the night
What will I take with me on that day?
By and by, I shall die, while regrets fill my life
What will I take with me on that day?

I can't take, take with me, fame and wealth, fame and wealth.
I can't take, take with me, rich wine or lovely girls.
I can't take, take with me, the garden, house or palace.
I can't take, take with me, reveries of richness.
But I will take with me a certain smile, certain smile.
But I will take with me shining eyes, shining eyes
Of children who're looking at their age approaching,
Their future, clear or dark, relies on their growing.

By and by, ... (repeat)

I can't take, take with me, any powers from a stage
I can't take, take with me, glorious times I have had.
I can't take, take with me, black or white statue
I can't take, take with me, golden age adventure.
But I will take with me rare love never known
By lovers who embraced overnight by a window,
Or under lamplighting, without any trouble
Violating fine customs, infringing good morals.

By and by, ... (repeat)

I can't take, take with me, the many things I hope for.
I can't take, take with me, anything from this world.
I can't take, take with me happiness or sadness
I can't take these, these, of course, I can never take.
But I wish to offer a few agreeable things
But I wish to offer my human destiny.
I offer to young ones whose future has just begun
All the by-gones of a man who might be born again.